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the legal profession generally who will not derive profit from Professor Ely's broad philosophical study of these institutions.

In adverse criticism of the volume a few points are worthy of mention. First in importance from the present reviewer's standpoint is the accumulation of the usual footnote citations and observations at the end of each chapter instead of at the bottom of each page to which they refer. This creates a decided inconvenience for the student and careful reader. It is the more to be deplored in Professor Ely's work because his notes are both numerous and valuable. A second point which may be mentioned relates to Dr. King's study of "Production, Present and Future" the second appendix of Part IV. Valuable as this study may be (and both Professor Ely's own statement and his inclusion of it in his work indicate beyond doubt his own view of the matter) its relation to the work proper is none too obvious and in consequence the reviewer is induced to duplicate the inclusion.

W. H. S. Stevens,

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THE PRINCIPLES OF LEGAL LIABILITY FOR TRESPASSES AND INJURIES BY ANIMALS. By WILLIAM NEWBY ROBSON, M.A., LL.D. Cambridge: UNIVERSITY PRESS. 1915. pp. xvi, 180.

The title of this book reveals at a glance the limited scope of the text. Instead of attempting to survey the entire body of legal rules dealing with the subject of animals and to chart its numerous ramifications in special fields, such as carriers, bailments and the criminal law, with its modern humane statutes penalizing cruelty, the author has confined himself to a formulation and discussion of the principles by which liability in tort is imposed upon an owner for the transgressions of his beasts. Restriction of subject-matter invites extensive study, predisposes to accuracy and offers an investigator excellent opportunity to summarize his researches in a treatise which will afford his readers an exhaustive exposition of the truth as he sees it yet will not dismay them by great length. Dr. Robson has not failed to take full advantage of his opportunity. He has taken pains to lay bare a distinct line of principle and "hews exactly to that line", thereby creating, according to the tests recently suggested by a reviewer in these columns, a genuine textbook and not merely compiling a digest crammed with "unrelated and undigested chunks of information." It is a treat to meet with a truly valuable legal commentary which, like this, may be slipped entire into a coat-pocket or carried away for week-end perusal without necessitating the sacrifice of half the available space in one's travelling bag.

Dr. Robson's summaries of the law are concise, well supported by authority and expressed comprehensibly. The double classification of animals existing in English law for the separate purposes of determining ownership and of fixing liability for injuries is brought out clearly by the Introduction and the topic sentences of Part 1. The chapter on "Trespass to Land" contains an illuminating discussion of the complications caused by prescriptive obligations to keep fences in repair. The gradual development of the rule making it unnecessary to prove scienter in the owner of an animal classified as dangerous is traced excellently in § 1 of Part 3. Occasionally, however, the citations are somewhat confusing. The authorities utilized on pp. 120-128 to establish the second class of exemptions from the absolute liability for harm

seem, as a matter of actual holding, rather to disprove the existence of this class than to confirm it. And on pp. 68-69, a case really determining that the mere keeping of a vicious domestic animal with knowledge of its propensity constitutes the gist of the action and that it is unnecessary to prove negligence appears to be employed by the author to illustrate his generalizations upon the absolute liability imposed regardless of scienter upon the owner of an animal of a ferocious species. Furthermore, Dr. Robson's statement that scienter is presumed by law in actions based upon injuries caused by animals of notoriously dangerous species seems to be unnecessarily strained and artificial. It seems to be much less academic, less confusing and closer to the truth to say merely that in actions of this nature the plaintiff is not required to prove scienter and that the defendant is not permitted to require its proof by the other party. For the most part, however, there is little to criticize unfavorably about the accuracy of the author's conclusions.

The typographical arrangement might be improved. Each general proposition advanced by Dr. Robson stands out, properly enough, in bold-face lettering at the head of its section. But the author's reasoning and comments upon the judicial decisions cited by him as authority have been printed, unfortunately, in type the same as that used for reprinting extracts from the opinions themselves. Consequently unconscious transition from judicial utterances to the writer's commentary and vice versa is rendered dangerously easy and to keep his bearings and maintain the necessary perspective the reader is compelled to watch constantly for quotation marks and other indicia of approaching changes of subject-matter. This is annoying and might have been avoided easily. It is difficult to understand why some simple plan such as printing all excerpts from opinions in special lettering was not adopted in preparing for the press this volume, which otherwise sustains admirably the traditional excellence of English typographical standards.

It is to be regretted that the author confined his treatise wholly to the English law and did not see fit to discuss the law of America. The jurisprudence of the two countries is so similar and decisions of each nation are cited so frequently in the courts of the other that any text-book not including within its compass full consideration of the laws of both seems like "Well begun is half done." Yet Dr. Robson cites only one American decision and quotes only one American author. For this reason he scarcely ought to expect his book to make a wide appeal this side of the Atlantic. But if another edition were prepared containing footnote references to pertinent American cases the text would no doubt prove to be of as much "service to practitioners and...those...interested in theories of law" here in the United States as it is bound to be in its present form to those the writer set out to benefit—the lawyers and law students of Great Britain.

*Thomas A. Larremore.*

INTERNATIONAL LAW TOPICS AND DISCUSSIONS.—NAVAL WAR COLLEGE. Washington, D. C. 1915. pp. 169.

This small volume consists of a discussion of some of the questions of international law, particularly those dealing with naval warfare. Under the four headings of (1) Classification of Public Vessels, (2) Regulations Relating to Foreign Ships of War in Waters Under the